

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-42. (Previously Canceled)

~~43.~~ (Previously Amended) A method for inhibiting IL-TIF-induced proliferation of neutrophils or platelets comprising culturing bone marrow or peripheral blood cells with a composition comprising an amount of soluble cytokine receptor comprising SEQ ID NO:3 sufficient to reduce proliferation of the neutrophils or platelets in the bone marrow or peripheral blood cells as compared to bone marrow or peripheral blood cells cultured in the absence of the soluble cytokine receptor.

Claims 44-45. (Previously Canceled)

Claims 46-47. (Canceled)

~~2~~ ~~48.~~ (Previously Added) The method of claim ~~45~~, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor further comprises a soluble CRF2-4 polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:33).

Claims 49-67. (Canceled)

~~3~~ ~~68.~~ (Currently Amended) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide complex comprising more than one soluble receptor subunit, wherein at least one of the soluble receptor subunits comprises ~~a~~^{the} sequence of amino acid residues shown in SEQ ID NO:3, and wherein a second soluble receptor subunit ~~The isolated polypeptide according to claim 61, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor further comprises a soluble CRF2-4 polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:33, and~~
wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide binds IL-TIF or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

~~60.~~ (Currently Amended) An isolated soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide complex consisting of two soluble receptor subunits, wherein at least one of the soluble receptor subunits consists of a sequence of amino acid residues shown in SEQ ID NO:3, and

wherein a second soluble receptor subunit ~~The isolated polypeptide according to claim 64, wherein the second soluble receptor subunit~~ consists of soluble CRF2-4 polypeptide (SEQ ID NO:33), and

wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide binds IL-TIF or antagonizes IL-TIF activity.

~~70.~~ (Newly added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim ~~68~~³, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprises a heterodimeric receptor complex.

~~71.~~ (Newly added) The isolated polypeptide according to claim ~~68~~³, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprises a multimeric receptor complex.

~~72.~~ (Newly added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim ~~68~~³, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.

~~73.~~ (Newly added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim ~~69~~⁴, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide comprises a heterodimeric receptor receptor complex.

~~74.~~ (Newly added) An isolated polypeptide according to claim ~~69~~⁴, wherein the soluble cytokine receptor polypeptide further comprises an affinity tag, label, chemical moiety, toxin, biotin/avidin label, radionuclide, enzyme, substrate, cofactor, inhibitor, fluorescent marker, chemiluminescent marker, cytotoxic molecule or an immunoglobulin Fc domain.